



Security Council

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**Letter dated 9 September 2005 from the Permanent
Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the
President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to forward herewith, in my capacity as the representative of the Current Chairman of the African Union, the communiqué adopted at the 37th meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, held in Addis Ababa on 8 September, 2005, concerning the situation in Mauritania (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aminu Bashir Wali
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Federal
Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 9 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

Communiqué of the 37th meeting of the Peace and Security Council

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 37th meeting, held on 8 September 2005, adopted the following decision on the situation in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania:

The Council,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, including the results of the visit of the AU Ministerial delegation to Nouakchott on 9 August 2005 [PSC/PR.2(XXXVII)];

2. **Recalls** Declaration PSC/PR/Decl.(XXXVI)-(ii) on the situation in Mauritania, adopted at its 36th session, on 4 August 2005;

3. **Takes note** of the developments in Mauritania since the coup d'état of 3 August and the commitments made by the new Mauritanian authorities towards the swift restoration of constitutional order by a process which will culminate in the holding of free, fair and transparent elections. The Council **takes note** of:

- The adoption of decrees instituting an inter-ministerial Committee for justice, an inter-ministerial Committee for the democratic transition process charged with proposing the measures and provisions intended to guarantee the smooth holding of scheduled elections, in consultation with political parties and civil society, and of an inter-ministerial Committee for good governance
- The adoption of a Constitutional Ordinance relating to the ineligibility of the President and members of the CMJD, of the Prime Minister and members of Government for presidential and legislative elections scheduled within the framework of the democratic transition process
- The commitment not to co-opt or favour any political party, or create any party or organization
- The request addressed to the United Nations on 26 August 2005 for electoral assistance towards organizing a constitutional referendum in July 2006, at the latest, to be followed by presidential and legislative elections before 3 August 2007
- The announcement, on 5 September 2005, of a general amnesty for all Mauritians being prosecuted, indicted or sentenced for political crimes and offences;

4. **Encourages** the Mauritanian authorities and other stakeholders to continue to work together for the swift return to constitutional order, to pursue and to enhance dialogue and consultation between all the stakeholders and to consolidate democracy and the rule of law, within the context of the unity and sovereignty of Mauritania;

5. **Requests** the Chairperson of the Commission, in liaison with the Chair of the AU and the Chair of the PSC, to take all necessary support measures in order to facilitate the swift return to constitutional order, within the shortest possible time, taking into account the commitments made by the new authorities, and to contribute to the consolidation of democracy and the rule of law, in accordance with the AU Constitutive Act, the Algiers Decision and the Lomé Declaration on Unconstitutional Changes of Government;
6. **Calls** on the international community, in its entirety, to continue to support the efforts of the African Union and to provide all necessary assistance to support the return to constitutional order in Mauritania;
7. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.